



United States

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20207

Office of the Executive Director

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 1, 1998

TO : Commissioners

Through: Sadye E. Dunn, Secretary
Jeffrey S. Bromme, General Counsel

FROM : Pamela Gilbert
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2000 Budget Recommendation

This memorandum transmits the staff recommendation for CPSC's FY 2000 budget request. The staff recommends an increase of 12 FTEs and \$10.2 million over the FY 1999 budget request currently pending before Congress. This funding level will allow the agency to maintain and enhance its mission of saving lives and preventing injuries. Despite a funding history that has left the agency with less purchasing power in FY 1999 than in FY 1995, CPSC has maintained its valuable, cost-effective service to the American public, preventing thousands of family tragedies and saving society millions of dollars. However, without additional investments in technology, research, and expertise to address continuing deaths and injuries, the agency faces erosion of its effectiveness in the future.

Recommendation Summary

The FY 2000 request is for \$56.7 million, an increase of \$10.2 million over our pending FY 1999 request of \$46.5 million. FTEs increase to 492, an increase of 12, to accommodate a proposed research initiative. The request recognizes that:

1. Maintenance of our current program activity (or purchasing power) requires additional funding of \$1.8 million, or 17 percent of the total increase.
2. As an agency that depends on science and engineering to evaluate and solve product hazards, we need to have a strong applied research capability. If we are to provide the leadership in product safety that our mission calls for, then funds to do applied research are an essential part of our responsibility to the American public. A modest research budget of \$5 million (or 49 percent of the total increase) and 12 FTEs is proposed to provide the agency this ongoing research1 capability. The size of the proposed research budget is modest in comparison to other federal agencies with similar science-based responsibilities.

NOTE: This document has not been reviewed or accepted by the Commission.
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3. We also propose strengthening our capabilities in hazard identification and reduction, compliance, and consumer information with \$1 .1 million (or 11 percent of the total increase) for new initiatives. Many proposals are familiar, since they were proposed last year but were left unfunded.

4. As a data-driven agency, we must strengthen the tools we use to identify and analyze hazards if we are to continue making sound risk-based decisions. The information technology increase of \$2.1 million (or 21 percent of the total increase) represents funding necessary for key improvements, such as an integrated database, as well as maintenance. This request is similar to the FY 1999 request for information technology that was deferred in the Presidents request.

5. Finally, the agency must continually invest in its staff, its most valuable asset. A total of \$236,000 (or 2 percent of the total increase) is proposed primarily to provide additional training for agency staff.

FY 2000 Budget Base to Maintain Current Services

Although the Congress has not completed action on our 1999 request, the staff recommendation is based on the President's FY 1999 request of \$46.5 million. This practice is based on Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance.

The staff also developed the costs of maintaining current agency services in FY 2000 using OMB guidelines. At a minimum, the budget must increase by **\$1,466,000** to pay for statutorily-mandated staff compensation costs in FY 2000. In addition, the staff estimates that \$157,000 will be necessary to meet increased costs (due to annual inflation) of noncompensation items such as travel, supplies, and services. There are also estimated space rent increases proposed by the General Services Administration (GSA) of \$126,000. GSA must confirm the space rent estimate - staff will insert the actual GSA amount for space rent increases when available.

Program Changes

There are two types of programmatic changes reflected in the FY 2000 request: new efforts funded within the \$46.5 million base; and, new initiatives that require funding above the FY 1999 level. The major changes are summarized below by budget program.

Hazard *Identification* and Analysis - Because our decisions are data-driven, it is imperative that we sustain and improve our data-collection and analysis capabilities. The FY 2000 recommendation includes \$185,000 to update the Product Population Model used by staff to develop estimates of numbers of products in use and the life-span of products. These estimates are critical to deciding the risk presented by products. This key model has not been updated in the last 15 years. Staff proposed this item in the original FY 1999 request but it was left unfunded.

Hazard Assessment and Reduction (HAR) - As expected, some FY 1999 activities in this program area will be concluded in FY 2000. We recommend funding several new initiatives *within* the \$46.5 million base. The new efforts include:

1. Fire Hazards: work to address open-flame ignitions of mattresses and bedding; a study to improve national fire injury estimates; assessments of the voluntary standards requirements for fixed room heaters and portable fans; **and** evaluations of pellet stoves, electrical component parts of appliances and house wiring systems, residential circuit breakers and panels, and electrical switches manufactured from thermoplastic materials.
2. Mechanical Codes and Standards: development of a design guide for use of plastics for mechanical components of consumer products.
3. Children's Products a study to assess the feasibility of developing practical and effective passive restraint systems for a broad range of children's products, an activity to begin to update the Commission's guidelines for determining the age appropriateness of children's toys, and evaluation of the results of a national study on youth baseball injuries to determine the role of protective equipment.
4. Chemical Hazards: an evaluation of carbon monoxide emissions from older appliances to determine if voluntary standards requirements need to be strengthened.

New funding above the \$46.5 million base is requested for the following HAR initiatives to address additional deaths and injuries and strengthen our hazard reduction tools:

1. We propose a \$5 million research, program designed to research significant hazard areas in order to better understand and develop effective hazard reduction strategies. This capability would also help keep the agency in the forefront of product safety and generate new initiatives to improve product safety.

The request is modest compared to similar research capabilities throughout the Federal government. The cost estimate of \$5 million was based on an initial inventory of research proposals. The final research proposals funded would be decided by the Commission during the development of the FY 2000 operating plan. It is expected that the \$5 million amount would continue in future years with new projects replacing completed efforts. The \$5 million estimate includes funding for 12 **FTEs** necessary to either conduct the research or manage the contracts used to complete the research.

2. We propose laboratory equipment funding of \$100,000 to replace aging equipment in our testing laboratory. This increment would provide a stable funding source for maintaining our laboratory's productivity.

3. We propose staff travel (\$27,000) and reference materials (\$4,000) to provide support for increased agency participation in voluntary standards activities to reduce product hazards.

Compliance - There are two funding initiatives to strengthen the Compliance program:

1. Investigation support in the amount of \$347,000. This would purchase additional expert contract support (\$300,000), staff investigator travel (\$20,000), product testing (\$19,000), and field investigator operating costs (\$8,000). This funding request is based on sustaining the present high level of compliance investigations.

2. The establishment of a new All-Terrain-Vehicle (ATV) monitoring program in place of the expired court decree requires \$50,000 for state and local monitoring of ATV sales, particularly sales to children.

Consumer Information - In addition to continuing the base program, several initiatives are proposed to strengthen our delivery of product safety information to the American public:

1. As part of the agency's focus on fire hazards and vulnerable populations, a pilot outreach effort in six high-risk locations to improve the availability of working smoke detectors to the most vulnerable populations (\$50,000).

2. The efficient distribution of children's safety information to the nation's 48,000 pediatricians (\$35,000).

3. Improvements to the agency's consumer Hotline, including the expansion of the Hotline operating hours, initiation of routine consumer publication ordering through the Hotline, and replacement of aging software and equipment (\$258,000).

4. The expansion of support for the agency's information center and Internet **Website** to further improve customer service and consumer information distribution and keep up with growing demand (\$25,000).

5. Funding an additional, highly effective, video news release (\$12,000).

All of these items, except the video new release, were contained in the FY 1999 proposal to OMB but not funded.

Agency Management - There are no substantive changes proposed in this program.

Information Technology - As a data-driven agency, CPSC requires significant, ongoing investments in information technology. The FY 2000 recommendation (\$2.1 million) is the same request that was included in the original FY 1999 budget request. This increase would, for the first time, allow the agency to keep up with changing technology by establishing a systematic replacement and maintenance program, and creating an integrated database.

Specifically, the request would:

1. Complete the major work needed for an integrated hazard database to allow an investigator or researcher to quickly assemble all relevant information from the agency's several databases (\$660,000).
2. Establish a maintenance program (\$1,159,000) that would provide a reasonable replacement cycle for critical equipment and software, thus **keeping** our information **systems** functioning with current and efficient technology.
3. Provide for new technology applications to take advantage of improvements in software and equipment that would increase agency productivity, such as an automated travel management system, as well as improve the agency's capability to respond to emergency information technology problems (\$327,000).

These costs, when added to present funding levels, are comparable to the average annual investment made by Federal agencies in information technology.

Results Act and the Budget

The long-range goals contained in the agency's Results Act strategic plan guided the development of this budget proposal. These goals include reductions in the rate of death and injury in these areas: children's head injuries and poisonings, fire, carbon monoxide poisoning, and electrocutions. In addition, there are industry and customer service satisfaction goals.

The budget provides appropriate resources to make progress in the first years of the multiyear goals. And while progress would not necessarily be diminished by failure to fund projects above the base, such funding would enhance our ability to meet the Results Act goals in future years and fulfill our mission to reduce deaths and injuries from consumer products.

Based on the Commission's FY 2000 budget decision, the staff will prepare a draft performance plan for FY 2000 as required by the Results Act.. The draft will be submitted to OMB in the Fall but will not be completed until CPSC receives the President's FY 2000 decision

Next Steps

The staff is available to answer any questions you may have before the briefing on July 15. If needed, a decision meeting is scheduled on July 22.

After the Commission decision, the staff will prepare a revised budget document to reflect Commission budget decisions and additional information required by the Office of Management and Budget. As you know, the staff is also discussing alternative program structures for presenting the budget to OMB and the Congress. We will be meeting with you soon to review possible format changes in the budget document. This revised document will be provided to the Commission before **submission** of the FY 2000 request to OMB in early September.

Please contact me if you have any questions about this budget submission.
'Thank you.

Attachment



U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

2000 Preliminary Budget Request

July 1998

II. BUDGET SUMMARY

TABLE 1
2000 BUDGET BY PROGRAM/SUBPROGRAM
(dollars in thousands)

	1998 Appropriation		1999 Request		2000 Recommendation		2000 Change from 1999	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Hazard Identification and Analysis:								
Surveillance Data.....	25	\$3,291	25	\$3,344	24	\$3,530	-1	+\$186
Investigation Data.....	22	1,720	21	1,789	21	1,860		+71
Emerging Hazards.....	10	908	10	931	11	1,141	+1	+210
Economics Studies.....	2	195	2	203	2	416		+213
Program Support.....	4	452	5	457	5	510		+53
Subtotal.....	63	6,566	63	6,724	63	7,457		+733
Hazard Assessment and Reduction:								
Fire/Electrocution Hazards.....	26	2,610	26	2,513	28	2,910	+2	+397
Mechanical Hazards.....	24	2,256	19	1,967	19	2,079		+112
Chemical Hazards.....	17	1,623	20	1,963	18	1,878	-2	-85
Research.....					12	5,000	+12	+5,000
Laboratory and Program Support.....	16	1,650	18	2,003	18	2,509		+506
Subtotal.....	83	8,139	83	8,446	95	14,376	+12	+5,930
Compliance:								
Fire/Electrocution Hazards.....	50	4,486	50	4,663	50	5,141		+478
Mechanical Hazards.....	111	9,191	111	9,554	111	10,535		+981
Chemical Hazards.....	17	1,543	17	1,604	17	1,768		+164
Program Support.....	14	1,289	14	1,340	14	1,477		+137
Subtotal.....	192	16,509	192	17,161	192	18,921		+1,760
Consumer Information:								
Continuing Publications and Outreach..	16	1,501	16	1,550	16	1,724		+174
Clearinghouse.....	8	706	8	708	8	748		+40
Public Information Services.....	26	2,761	26	2,810	26	3,288		+478
Program Support.....	4	414	4	416	4	463		+47
Subtotal.....	54	5,382	54	5,484	54	6,223		+739
Agency Management:								
Commissioners and Staff.....	13	1,511	13	1,546	13	1,780		+234
Commission Advice/Legal Guidance....	13	1,551	13	1,598	12	1,650	-1	+52
Executive Direction.....	8	884	8	929	8	1,056		+127
General Administrative Services.....	54	4,458	54	4,612	55	5,261	+1	+649
Subtotal.....	88	8,404	88	8,685	88	9,747		+1,062
Total Commission without								
Relocation.....	480	\$45,000	480	\$46,500	492	\$56,724	+12	+10,224
Relocation+.....	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total Commission with Relocation.....	480 **	\$45,003	480 **	\$46,500	492	\$56,724	+12	+\$10,224

*Relocation funds are not discussed in the budget narrative because the funds are special purpose funds expired in 1998.

"The 1998 and 1999 FTE ceiling of 480 has been replaced by the Office of Management and Budget with an FTE estimate of 475. This budget document contains a level of 480 because that is the planning level for agency recruitment.

Table 2
Summary of Changes, 1999 to 2000
(dollars in thousands)

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTEs</u>
1999 APPROPRIATION PENDING	\$46,500	480
ADJUSTMENTS TO 1999 APPROPRIATION BASE:		
Cost Increases - To maintain current services in 2000:		
Statutory pay and benefit increases	1,466	
Non-compensation related inflation increases	157	
GSA space rent increases for office space	<u>126</u>	
1999 CURRENT SERVICES LEVEL	\$48,249	480
CRITICAL INVESTMENTS:		
Hazard Identification and Analysis:		
Economic Studies - update Product Population Model (\$185)	185	
Hazard Assessment and Reduction:		
Research Initiative - supports all hazard work	5,000	12
Laboratory and Program Support - laboratory equipment	100	
Standards development support in all hazard areas - travel (\$27); technical reference material (\$4)	31	
Compliance:		
Investigation and litigation support in all hazard areas - contracts (\$300); travel (\$20); PSA samples (\$19); field services (\$8)	347	
State and local funding - mechanical hazards - ATV monitoring	50	
Consumer Information:		
Smoke detector campaign	50	
Pediatricians outreach	35	
Hotline - expanded hours/improved public access to publications/software- equipment replacement	258	
Information Center/Internet Website support	25	
Additional video news release	12	
Information Technology:		
Integrated database	660	
Establish maintenance program	1,159	
New applications	327	
Human Resources:		
Training - increase training opportunities to 60% of need	175	
Development of human resources management policies	36	

Administrative Services:

facilities Management - establish maintenance fund for 7 year old		
headquartersoffices	20	
OSHA Safety - to meet safety requirement in laboratory	<u>5</u>	
Subtotal, Critical Investments	<u>\$8,475</u>	<u>12</u>
2000 RECOMMENDATION	<u>492,724</u>	

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE FOR 2000

CPSC is a data-driven agency. Protecting the public by making risk-based decisions on the basis of timely and accurate data or information is critical to the agency's mission. However, the agency's information technology capability needs additional investment in order to maintain and expand support to hazard reduction efforts. For FY 2000, a total of **\$2,146,000** has been identified as necessary investments to **preserve** and build on the Commission's highly effective and productive use of information technology.

BACKGROUND

Agency Development of Information Technology Capability

Since 1993, the Commission has made a significant investment in upgrading its information technology capabilities by:

- Establishing an agencywide computer network with computer access for all employees.
- Installing and modernizing computerized databases for key, mission-critical programs, such as the National Electronic **Injury** Surveillance System (**NEISS**).
- Initiating a document-imaging capability for electronic filing.
- Improving the Consumer Hotline and National Injury Information Clearinghouse.
- Establishing an Internet site.

These investments have been made through a combination of special one-time appropriations and limited use of annual appropriation funding.

Savings from Information Technology

The applications of information technology at CPSC have directly benefitted consumers and industry by saving thousands of hours of staff time, allowing this time to be used to reduce product hazards. In fact, information technology advances have enabled the agency to maintain its effectiveness despite loss of purchasing power and **10** percent of its staff since 1992. Information technology has also improved the distribution of safety information to the public and has greatly streamlined communications among agency staff, permitting the rapid, national sharing of hazard data and product-related information. And information technology has allowed us to make more productive use of Commission resources, such as introducing telecommuting for our field staff (which permitted significant office space rent savings).

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

The Commission has reached a crossroads in its information technology development. It has an infrastructure in place that properly supports hazard injury reduction activities. However, the Commission's current resources do not provide for either long-term maintenance of the existing system or the development of the next generation of hazard database use.

Future Requirements

The information technology investment required to keep the agency's information technology modern consists of three elements:

1. Integrate Hazard Databases - The goal of the Commission's information technology effort is to have all of the Commission's injury data in electronic format, and linked, enabling staff to more quickly identify hazards. \$660,000 is required to make substantial progress toward full database integration. This full integration of agency data will, for example, enable a compliance officer to quickly obtain all of the Commission's data on product-related injuries from NEISS, Medical Examiner and Coroner Alert Project (MECAP) data, death certificate data, poison control center data, consumer Hotline, and other incident reports. Today, an employee must access all of these independently, which takes many hours or days, with no assurances that all of the Commission's data on the subject have been accessed.

2. Establish Maintenance Program - An additional **\$1,159,000** is needed to begin modernizing agency computer systems and other information technology applications. While the agency has invested in computer equipment and software over the past five years, much of the equipment was acquired in **1993**. As this equipment and software ages, a portion must be replaced periodically. Equipment subject to replacement includes staff computers, database computer servers, and networks providing wider staff access to the injury databases. By 2000, much of the agency's information technology equipment inventory will be at the end of its useful life in terms of meeting the demands placed on it by staff use. This level of funding would establish a recurring replacement cycle, varying by type of equipment or software. For example, staff computers would be replaced every three to five years. To the extent possible, the agency will try to minimize the impact of equipment that is not year 2000 compliant. In addition, funds are included to begin a three year replacement cycle for the agency hearing room telecommunications and **audio/visual** equipment, as well as modernize the central computer and software that controls the headquarters telephone system.

3. Purchase New Capabilities - \$327,000 is required to purchase new software, services, and equipment which would further enhance agency staff productivity. Funds would be used to provide additional contract help desk support, provide technical training to agency information technology staff, purchase improvements to the agency's network backbone to handle growth in computer processing demands, purchase dedicated network computer servers, such as an Internet gateway server, as

well as increase the agency's capability to respond quickly to emergencies involving software, hardware, and network operations. Finally, funds are requested to purchase an off-the-shelf automated travel management system designed to speed up travel expenditure documentation and eliminate travel documentation **paperwork**.

Of the \$2.1 million increase, \$700,000 represents a one-time or non-recurring cost; \$1.4 million would continue in future years to provide current and efficient information technology support to hazard reduction work,

Funding Deferred

The Commission's original 1999 request included a similar information technology funding request to properly maintain and develop an information technology system that fully supports agency programs. However, because the nation is striving towards a balanced budget, the 1999 budget deferred these investments. These investments continues to be **critical** to the agency's future information technology productivity.

CONCLUSION

CPSC has successfully used information technology to increase agency productivity and cope with resource reductions. The agency now depends on it to sustain the current level of agency productivity and success in reducing deaths and injuries. Information technology capability requires continual investment if it is to operate efficiently and take advantage of the productivity gains technology can offer.

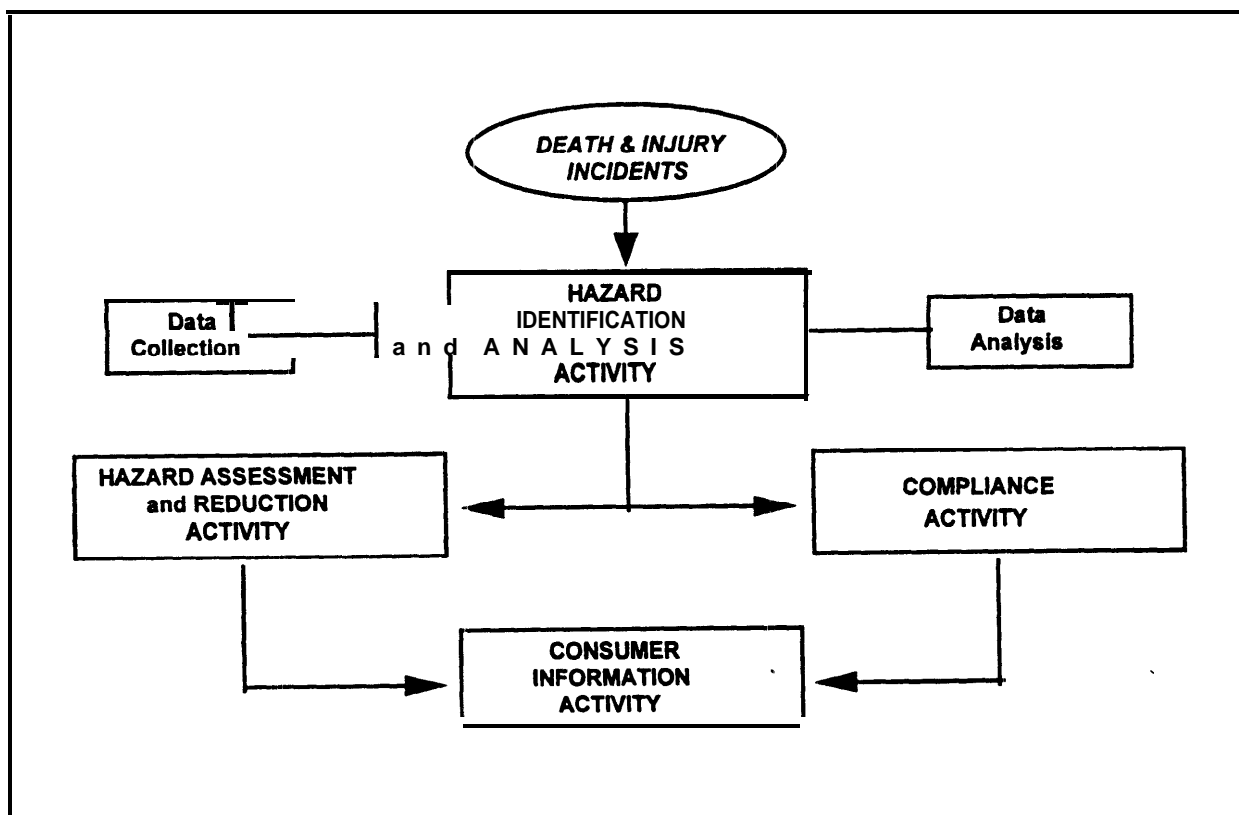
III. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS

	1998 Appropriation		1999 Request		2000 Recommendation	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Total Program	63	\$6,566	63	\$6,724	63	\$7,457

Goals and Strategies

The Hazard Identification and Analysis (HIA) Program provides the information needed to assess product hazards and develop injury reduction strategies.

The Commission collects data on consumer product-related injuries and deaths, as well as potential injury incidents. It also collects economic and hazard exposure information on products under the agency's jurisdiction. Investigation of specific injury cases provides additional knowledge about injuries or hazards and how the reported product was involved. Commission staff screens the hazard data and conducts analyses to determine if hazard reduction action should be taken under the Commission's Hazard Assessment and Reduction, Compliance' or Consumer Information programs. The HIA program provides underlying support to all the Commission's Results Act activities.



RELATIONSHIP OF HIA PROGRAM TO OTHER PROGRAMS

1999 Base Program

The **HIA** program in 1999 provides data collection and data analysis services with 63 **FTEs** and \$6.7 million.

Data collection (under the Surveillance Data project) consists of gathering and processing basic injury data from many sources including hospitals, medical examiners, poison control centers, and news media. CPSC's data collection system is unique because it is timely (in some cases data are available within 24 hours after an incident) and produces statistically valid data on which injury reduction strategies are based. Federal agencies involved in health and safety issues, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, rely on Commission injury data. Several foreign governments have modeled their national injury data collection system after the Commission's system. In 1997, CPSC's hospital sample was updated to maintain the statistical validity of the system.

The **HIA** program analyzes causal and cost information under the investigations, emerging hazards, and economic studies efforts. These activities reflect the Commission's commitment to making regulatory and enforcement decisions based on appropriate data analysis.

The agency continues to strengthen its data collection and analysis process. The agency's budget now includes funding to purchase annual data on poisonings to children. The update of the agency's critical Injury Cost Model was completed in 1998. A study of the long-term costs of head injuries is expected to be completed in 1999.

2000 Changes

The strengthening of the agency's data collection and analysis process continues with the funding proposed in 2000. The **HIA** 2000 request consists of 63 **FTEs** and \$7.5 million, an increase of \$733,000 over 1999. This change reflects the program's share of agency increases to maintain current services as well as investments in information technology **(\$548,000)**, and a new program initiative of \$185,000. The program initiative would update the agency's Product Population Model, which provides estimates of the number of products in use.

	1998 Appropriation		1999 Request		2000 Recommendation	
Program Detail	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount,
Surveillance Data	25	\$3,291	25	\$3,344	24	\$3,530
Investigations	22	1,720	21	1,789	21	1,860
Emerging Hazards	10	908	10	931	11	1,141
Economic Studies	2	195	2	203	2	416
Program Support	4	452	5	457	5	510
Total Program	63	\$6,566	63	\$6,724	63	\$7,457

Surveillance Data

The Surveillance Data project gathers data on deaths,, injuries and hazards. This information provides vital input for Commission decisions on remedial strategies for addressing the risks of injury associated with a wide variety of consumer products. For 2000, the Surveillance Data project continues with the following ongoing activities:

The National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) continues as the foundation for Commission efforts to collect information on product-related injuries. NEISS provides estimates of the frequency and severity of product-related injuries treated in hospital emergency rooms. NEISS will supply about 330,000 cases from a sample of 101 hospitals. The hospital sample was updated in 1997 to maintain statistical validity of the system.

The collection of mortality data involves the purchase, review and processing of about 8,700 certificates covering unintentional product-related deaths from all 50 states. In addition, the Medical Examiner and Coroner Alert Project (**MECAP**) involves collection, review and processing of approximately 2,400 reports from participating medical examiners and coroners throughout the country.

The collection, review and processing of approximately 10,000 news clips and 10,000 other incident reports from consumers, lawyers, physicians, fire departments and many other sources continues.

The provision of statistical support continues for all the data systems, including resources to design, conduct and evaluate the many special injury studies required each year.

Investigations

The Investigations project, an ongoing activity, gathers detailed causal information on selected incidents identified under the Surveillance Data project. The analyst begins the process with careful review of all incoming reports to identify those most important for **follow-up**. Follow-up activity continues with a telephone investigation and an on-site investigation of those cases where a detailed investigation will provide information on how specific types of injuries occur. These data show the interaction between the victim, the product, and the environment and form the basis for development of appropriate remedial strategies.

Emerging Hazards

Emerging Hazards provides for the proactive, systematic identification and evaluation of a variety of product-related hazards. Information developed from this project will be used to establish the need for Hazard Assessment and **Reduction** (HAR) projects or other remedial activities, such as compliance efforts and consumer information campaigns.

Screening of data is ongoing and uses the extensive information available from the Commission's data systems to identify new hazards, previously undetected hazards, or re-emerging hazards. The Commission expects to receive 330,000 **NEISS** injury reports, 20,000 newspaper clippings and other incident reports, 2,400 medical examiners reports, 8,700 death certificates, and 2,200 agency investigation reports. Incoming data are reviewed daily to ensure timely identification of product issues and problems. This screening ensures that product hazards are continuously reviewed and evaluated so that new project initiatives may be formulated as needed.

- Analysis defines and provides preliminary assessment of specific products, populations, or hazard areas identified through the hazard screening effort and other identification activities. The analysis capability ensures that the most appropriate injury reduction strategies are implemented under the HAR program. Recommendations for future Commission projects or other remedial activities are often based on reports and memoranda prepared under this activity.

Agency responses to petitions are developed under the Emerging Hazards activity. Petitions are requests from private parties seeking agency action on a perceived hazard. Work on petitions serves as an information source for the hazard screening and analysis work.

Economic Studies

This effort continues to provide specialized economic information to the staff, Commissioners, Congress, other agencies, and the public. Injury cost projections will be developed to estimate potential benefits associated with Commission or other actions. Products-in-use estimates will be generated to determine potential recall effectiveness, consumer exposure to product hazards, and to support the hazard screening activity.

In 2000, there is one initiative designed to strengthen the Commission's economic analysis capability. This initiative will update the agency's Product Population Model (**PPM**) for \$185,000. This computer database model estimates how many products of a **specified** type (e.g., gas furnaces) are available for use each year. Information from the model is important for use in risk assessments. The model has not been thoroughly updated in more than 15 years. A national, multi-product probability survey will collect product survival information to support development of the revised **PPM**.

Program Support

Program support continues to provide direction for the Hazard Identification and Analysis program. This includes program management from the Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction, and the Directorates for Field Operations, Economic Analysis and Epidemiology and Health Sciences. Computer support is also included to process large databases, such as the program's **NEISS** system.

IV. HAZARD ASSESSMENT AND REDUCTION

	1998 Appropriation		1999 Request		2000 Recommendation	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Total Program	83	\$8,139	83	\$8,446	95	\$14,376

Goals and Strategies

In 2000, the Hazard Assessment and Reduction (HAR) program, through a balanced set of strategies, addresses hazards which involve a projected annual 5,100 deaths, over 700,000 injuries, and \$59 billion in societal costs associated with consumer products.

The HAR program analyzes incident and injury patterns and applies appropriate strategies for reducing hazards. **Within** this program, the Commission has a wide range of voluntary and regulatory options available to reduce the hazards associated with consumer products. These include both voluntary and mandatory standards for product performance and product labeling, product bans, and development of consumer **information** and education materials. Whenever possible, reduction activities are carried out **cooperatively** with affected industries and state and local organizations..

1999 Base Program

The HAR program in 1999 consists of many different hazard projects supported by 83 **FTEs** and \$8.4 million. Past hazard reduction work in just five areas (electrocutions, children's poisonings, cribs, power mowers, and fire safety) saves the nation almost \$9.5 billion each year. The recently issued rule requiring child-resistant cigarette lighters is projected to have net benefits of over \$500 million in societal costs each year.

2000 Changes

The 2000 program continues to apply a balanced set of product safety hazard reduction strategies (voluntary and mandatory standards, code changes, and development of technical and consumer information). The 2000 HAR request consists of 95 **FTEs** and \$14.4 million. The **FTEs** increase by 12 and dollars increase by \$6 million. The **FTE** increase supports the research initiative. The dollar increase reflects the program's share of the agency request to maintain current **services** as well as investments in information technology (**\$799,000**), and new program initiatives of **\$5,131,000**.

The new program initiatives include:

A \$5 million research program designed to research significant hazard areas in order to better understand and develop effective hazard reduction strategies.
\$100,000 to replace aging equipment in our testing laboratory.

\$31,000 to **provide** additional staff travel and reference materials to support standards development.

New initiatives funded within the base include:

Fire Hazards: work to address open-flame ignitions of mattresses and bedding; a study to improve national fire injury estimates; assessments of the voluntary standards requirements for fixed room heaters and portable fans; and evaluations of pellet stoves, electrical component parts of appliances and house wiring systems, residential circuit breakers and panels, and electrical switches manufactured from thermoplastic materials;
Mechanical Codes and Standards:: development: of a design guide for use of plastics for mechanical components of consumer products;

Children's Products: a study to assess the feasibility of developing practical and effective passive restraint systems for a broad range of children's products, an activity to begin to update the Commission's guidelines for determining the age appropriateness of children's toys; and an evaluation of the results of a national study on youth baseball injuries to determine the role of protective equipment; and,

Chemical Hazards: an evaluation of carbon monoxide emissions from older appliances to determine if voluntary standards requirements need to be strengthened.

The 2000 program addresses about \$59 billion in annual societal costs.

Program Detail	1998 Appropriation		1999 Request		2000 Recommendation	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Fire/Electrocution Hazards	26	\$2,610	26	\$2,513	28	\$2,910
Mechanical Hazards	24	2,256	19	1,967	19	2,079
Chemical Hazards	17	1,623	20	1,963	18	1,878
Research	--	--	--	--	12	5,000
Laboratory/Program Support	16	1,650	18	2,003	18	2,509
Total Program	83	\$8,139	83	\$8,446	95	\$14,376

The injuries, deaths, property damage and societal costs (dollars in billions) addressed by efforts under the HAR program are summarized below.

PROJECTS BY HAZARD GROUP	INJURIES	DEATHS	PROPERTY DAMAGE	SOCIETAL COST
FIRE/ELECTROCUTION PROJECTS	25,425	3,925	\$4.4	\$25.0
MECHANICAL/CHILDREN'S/ RECREATIONAL PROJECTS:				
Mechanical Codes & Standards	15,400	384	N.A.	3.0
Children's Products	528,200	498	N.A.	24.0
CHEMICAL PROJECTS*				
CO Poisoning	15,400	223	N.A.	3.0
Poisoning Prevention (PPPA/Other)	120,000	29	N.A.	4.0
TOTAL	704,425	5,059	\$4.4	\$59.0

N.A. = not applicable

- Data do not include injuries and deaths associated with hazards in the toxicity assessment area; however for this category, based on only one type of injury, chronic respiratory disease, societal costs are estimated to be several billion dollars.

Data Sources: Injury, death and property damage data sources are National Electronic Injury Surveillance System, National Fire Incident Reporting System, National Fire Protection Association, news clippings, consumer complaints, death certificates, medical examiner reports, and National Center for Health Statistics. Societal costs include costs of all medically-treated injuries, costs of fatalities, and property damage estimates. Injury costs are estimated from CPSC's Injury Cost Model. Fatalities assume \$5 million per statistical life, consistent with economic literature.

Note: Injury cost estimates are based on CPSC's revised Injury Cost Model and, therefore, should not be compared to previous years.

Fire/Electrocution Hazards

Nationally, there were 425,000 residential structure fires in 1995. Fire is a leading cause of accidental home deaths among children younger than five years old and adults 65 and older. The total cost to society of the fire hazards addressed in 2000 is estimated at \$24 billion, involving almost 3,700 deaths. The Commission, in its Results Act strategic plan, has set a goal of reducing the rate of death from fire-related causes by **10** percent from 1995 to 2005. The Commission has also established a goal of reducing by 20 percent the rate of deaths from electrocutions from 1994 to 2004. The total cost to society of the electrocution hazards addressed in 2000 is estimated at \$1.4 billion, involving over 200 deaths.

While efforts by the agency and the nation's fire prevention community have resulted in a steady decline in residential fires, this nation's fire death rate remains one of the highest among industrialized nations. Past CPSC activities involving cigarette-resistant mattresses and upholstered furniture, heating equipment, child-resistant cigarette lighters, children's sleepwear, and smoke detectors have certainly contributed to the general decline in fires and fire deaths, and show that the agency can be effective in reducing fire hazards.

The Fire/Electrocution Hazards project continues 1999 work on upholstered furniture, wall coverings and fire/gas and electrical codes and standards. New activities will be undertaken on the hazard of open-flame ignition of mattresses and bedding; a study to improve national fire injury estimates; assessments of the voluntary standards requirements for fixed room heaters and portable fans; and evaluations of pellet stoves, electrical component parts of appliances and house wiring systems, residential circuit breakers and panels, and electrical switches manufactured from thermoplastic materials.

• The Upholstered Furniture effort continues work begun in 1994. In 1995, there were an estimated 670 deaths, 1,710 injuries, and about \$245 million in property damage resulting from 13,600 fires due to ignition of upholstered furniture. Total societal costs are estimated at about \$3.7 billion. In 1994, the Commission granted, in part, a petition from the National Association of State Fire Marshals to initiate a proceeding to regulate upholstered furniture flammability. The Commission published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR) on small open flame ignition risks and deferred action on the portion of the petition dealing with cigarette ignition risks. Since 1990, small open flame-ignited furniture fires caused an annual average of 100 deaths, 450 injuries, and \$48 million in property damage-about 80% of all open flame losses. Estimated average societal costs are over \$600 million.

In 1996 and 1997, the Commission developed the technical basis to support an open-flame ignition performance standard. In 1998, the Commission deferred action on open flame ignition and held a public hearing to gather data on the potential toxicity of flame retardant chemicals that may be used to meet a flammability standard.

If the Commission issues a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPR) on a small open flame ignition **performance** standard, resources are available to analyze public comments on the NPR, continue standards development work toward a possible final small open flame rule, and work with interested consensus voluntary standards organizations and the furniture industry to develop a voluntary standard alternative. In 2000, the Commission could consider a final rule on small open flame or other voluntary alternatives.

- Work in the area of fire/gas/electrical codes and standards continues. Gas-fired **appliances** continue to be a significant source of residential fire deaths. In 1995, the latest year for which data are available, there were 230 fire deaths attributed to all gas-fired appliances. Water heater fires resulted in 7 deaths and 330 injuries. In 2000, CPSC will continue to work with the water heater industry to develop technologies and performance standards to reduce incidents involving water heater ignition of flammable vapors.

Pellet stoves, a type of wood burning stove that uses compressed material, such as sawdust as fuel, are increasing in popularity. CPSC will study the designs of pellet stoves, review incident data focusing on hazard problems, such as hopper fires, and assess the need for changes to voluntary standards and codes to address possible hazards.

Work on automatic fire sprinklers will continue in 2000. CPSC will test and evaluate current types of sprinklers to develop voluntary standards recommendations addressing product performance, installation, use, and maintenance.

To prevent electrical **fires**, in 2000, CPSC will focus attention on several appliance categories that are involved in residential fires. Staff will assess voluntary standards requirements for fixed room air heaters and portable electric household fans. Staff will also conduct a comprehensive analysis of the role that electrical component parts of appliances and home wiring systems play in the electrical fire problem. An evaluation of residential circuit breakers and panelboards will be undertaken. In addition, testing and evaluation of samples of electrical switches fabricated from thermoplastic materials will be conducted to determine the extent to which the deformation of the materials contributes to catastrophic failures of the switches. Work will continue on **arc-fault** circuit interrupters, a new generation electrical protective device, and on the evaluation of requirements for portable room air heaters. Follow-up activities on previous recommendations for improvements to standards for clothes dryers, dishwashers, electric ranges and ride-on battery toys will continue.

- Wall coverings have been a significant contributor to the residential fire problem for many years. In 1995, about 220 people died in fires in which interior wall covering was cited as the first item ignited. In order to effectively address these fires, CPSC is conducting a comprehensive field study on the specific circumstances surrounding those fires. In 1999, fire incident data will be collected to identify the materials involved, ignition sources, ignition sequence, ignition location, etc. In 2000, a full report on the study will be prepared with recommendations for appropriate fire prevention strategies.

- Mattresses and bedding fires associated with open flame ignition continue to be a concern. While fire deaths attributed to smoldering ignition of mattresses have declined, due in great part to a Federal flammability standard, deaths associated with open flame ignition of mattresses and bedding have remained relatively constant. In addition, there is a significant involvement of young children in these open flame fires, both as victims and as fire starters. The mattress industry is expected to support research in 1998-1999 to develop the technological basis for a possible performance safety standard. In 2000, CPSC will undertake an evaluation of this work.

- CPSC will conduct an evaluation to improve the national fire injury estimates. Currently, both **CPSC's** National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) and the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) can be used to estimate fire-related injuries. However, there is overlap and the estimates from the two systems cannot be added to provide an overall total. In 2000, staff will evaluate the characteristics of injuries common to both systems to estimate the size and characteristics of the overlap by product. The study will provide more complete estimates of fire-related injuries by product than are currently available.
- The Electrocutions activity is aimed at reducing the accidental deaths associated with the use of electricity in and around the home. The primary approach is to develop and recommend revisions to voluntary product safety standards and nationally recognized codes. In 2000, the application of new types of ground fault circuit interrupters (**GFCIs**) that can offer greater shock protection than the widely used current models will be proposed for installation codes. New **GFCI** concepts under development by this industry include advanced micro-circuitry that monitors the readiness of the device. Strengthening standards for other shock protection methods, including grounding and improved insulation systems, will also be part of the electrocution prevention strategy in 2000.

Mechanical Hazards

The Commission estimates that the mechanical and children's product hazards addressed by the 2000 project were involved in an estimated 882 deaths and 543,600 injuries in 1996. The estimated annual societal cost of deaths and injuries is about \$27 billion.

- The Mechanical Codes and Standards project works to improve model building codes and product safety standards for mechanical products. Efforts in this project are estimated to address 15,400 injuries and 384 deaths. The estimated annual societal cost of deaths and injuries is about \$3 billion. In 2000, work will continue on the development of a voluntary safety standard for swimming pool alarms and on strengthening the voluntary standard for snowthrowers. Work on escalators, garage doors and door operators, chain saws and go carts will continue. CPSC staff will conduct a comprehensive review of the properties of plastics. This information will be used to develop a design guide for selecting the proper plastic for mechanical application in consumer products.

The Children's Products project addresses injuries and deaths associated with specific products most of which are intended for use by children and includes sports and recreation activities. The issues being addressed in 2000 are estimated to have been involved in 528,200 injuries and 498 deaths in the most recent year where data were available. The-estimated annual societal cost of these injuries and deaths is about **\$24** billion. Specifically, CPSC will work on a number of voluntary standards activities, undertake a study to assess the feasibility of developing practical and effective passive restraint systems for a variety of children's products, and update the Commission's "Guidelines for Relating Children's Ages to Toy Characteristics."

The Commission's Results Act strategic plan has set a goal of reducing by **10** percent the rate of head injury to children under **15** years old from 1996 to 2006. Various projects in this subprogram address this goal.

- CPSC will continue to assist industry in the development or revision of voluntary standards for public and home playground equipment, soft contained play equipment, playground equipment for children under two years of age, playground surfacing, baby swings, bed rails, high chairs, infant bedding and related accessories, infant carriers, mini hammocks, stationary activity centers, trampolines, toy safety, furniture (tipover) and window guards. In addition, CPSC staff will work on voluntary standards activities for sports headgear to help reduce sports-related head injuries. The voluntary standards activity is an ongoing project and, as often is the case, standards are added when there is a need for new requirements to address recently identified hazards.
- In 2000, CPSC will continue work on the study begun in 1999 to learn more about **playground**-related injuries. In 1999, CPSC will conduct a special study of playground equipment-related injuries to provide a current picture of the hazard scenarios involved in playground incidents occurring in home, public, and **daycare** locations. This information will be helpful in assessing the need for future efforts to address playground hazards, evaluating the results of past actions, and will provide current data to document the factors **contributing** to playground incidents.
- CPSC will initiate a comprehensive analysis of the feasibility of developing practical and effective passive restraint systems for a variety of children's products, including infant carriers, infant swings, strollers, changing tables, bicycle carriers, and baby jumpers. An estimated 28,000 emergency room injuries were attributed to falls associated with these products in 1995. There is little available data on effective, tested, restraint system designs for children. The focus of this activity will be to address restraint effectiveness, ease of use, proper sizing, **child**-proofing, test-protocol development, standard-development and cost-effectiveness. This activity is expected to take two years.
- CPSC staff will begin an effort to update the CPSC age guidelines document, Guidelines for Relating Children's Ages *fo* Toy **Characteristics**. This document **was** created in 1985 and **serves as** a critical reference resource for the Commission as well as toy manufacturers. Staff plans to identify and assess new types of toys and evaluate traditional toys to identify changes in design or use that may impact age appropriateness. Changes in marketing, product purchase trends, and play behaviors will be addressed.
- In the sports and recreation area, CPSC staff will conduct an evaluation of a nationwide study on youth baseball injuries to further assess the role of protective equipment, and continue participation in voluntary standards activities for various types of exercise equipment.

Chemical Hazards

The Chemical Hazards project seeks to reduce or prevent hazards occurring by ingestion, inhalation, or dermal exposure from use of consumer products. The hazards are reduced by the development of mandatory or voluntary standards, improved product technology, improved product **labeling**, the development of guidance for consumers and manufacturers, and partnerships with other agencies, industry, and consumer groups. The Commission estimates societal costs of over \$6 billion resulting from injuries and deaths associated with products in the poison prevention hazard area. Costs of injuries and deaths associated with products in the other chemical hazard areas are expected to be in the billions of dollars, based on respiratory diseases alone. This subprogram also addresses carbon monoxide (CO) hazards which result in over 200 deaths annually with \$2.5 billion in societal costs.

The Commission's Results Act strategic plan has set a goal that the rate of deaths from unintentional poisonings to children under 5 years old will not increase beyond 2.5 deaths per million children from 1994 to 2004. The Commission has also established a goal of reducing the rate of death from carbon monoxide poisonings by 20 percent from 1994 to 2004. Activities in 2000 include:

- Continuing the Poison Prevention activity to address injuries and deaths associated with children's ingestion of medicines and household chemicals. In 1997, an estimated 116,000 children under the age of five were treated in hospital emergency rooms following ingestion of medicines or toxic household chemicals, Societal costs of over \$3 billion are estimated for poisoning incidents. Commission efforts through promulgation and enforcement of the regulations of the Poison Prevention Packaging Act (PPPA) have played a key role in reducing medicine and household chemical poisoning deaths of children from 216 in 1972 to 29 in 1995. In 2000 staff will:

1. Complete PPPA rulemaking activities proposed in 1999 requiring child-resistant packaging on substances and,
2. Review chemicals identified as potentially hazardous and propose PPPA rulemaking as appropriate.

- Continuing the toxicity assessment activity to address a broad spectrum of consumer products and health effects (eye and skin irritation, burns, neurotoxic and reproductive effects, respiratory diseases, cardiovascular diseases, cancer). Each year, the project addresses specific issues that have been identified as emerging hazards. Topics which are addressed are those which are amenable to direct and clear Commission action. Participation in interagency committees and partnerships ensures coordination of scientific activities of mutual interest. In 2000 staff will:

1. Continue assessing product-related lead poisoning hazards and initiate reduction **activities** as needed;
2. Assess other product-related hazards on an as needed basis.

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

The Carbon Monoxide Poisoning project addresses about 220 deaths and over 15,000 injuries that occur each year as a result of unintentional, non-fire-related carbon monoxide poisoning associated with the use of consumer products. In 2000, the project includes activities that focus on data collection, voluntary standards, building codes, state and local legislation, and hazard awareness programs.

- An evaluation of emissions from older appliances and the cause of those emissions will be conducted to determine 'if voluntary standards requirements need to be strengthened.
- Work on carbon monoxide (CO) alarms continues. CPSC will update information about the market for CO alarms and continue to assess the performance of alarms meeting the revised **UL** standard. Staff will encourage the acceptance of a proposal to the International Building Code that CO alarms be required in new construction and will provide information and model legislation to state and local jurisdictions that are considering CO alarm legislation.

- **With** respect to unvented gas appliances and furnaces, CPSC will consider, develop, and recommend **as** necessary changes to the appropriate voluntary standards to reduce deaths and injuries from CO poisoning. The unvented appliances will include gas furnaces, gas ovens/ranges and decorative gas log sets.
- Hazard awareness programs are important in addressing CO hazards and providing information about CO poisoning and its prevention and detection CPSC will work to coordinate those efforts so as to ensure a consistent and uniform message for consumers, medical professionals, and responders.

Research

In 2000, CPSC is proposing a research budget of \$5 million and 12 **FTEs**. This initiative will provide CPSC with the capability that other health and safety agencies have to investigate complex technical issues in their areas of responsibility. CPSC is the only Federal agency in the United States that has the responsibility for conducting research into the safety of the consumer products used in and around the home. Manufacturers generally do not undertake research in areas dedicated to safety. Their emphasis is on product development and improved product performance. While manufacturers include safety in their designs, it is not the primary focus of their work. CPSC needs a research budget to investigate complex safety hazards that require significant technical expertise and resources.

One example of an activity CPSC is proposing as part of this research budget is the evaluation of the relative capabilities of different types of smoke alarms and the adequacy of the current test procedures to evaluate their performance. Earlier research to collect such data is out of date and has been subjected to considerable criticism., There is widespread support in the fire community about the need for this research, but there are no funds available to do the work. This research requires significant resources, since it is necessary to conduct full-scale room bum tests.

The smoke alarm work is just one example of the type of research proposed. Within the \$5 million, CPSC is proposing to undertake a number of significant research activities in areas directly related to Results Act goals. The outcome of this research will lead to better product safety standards and more effective hazard-reduction strategies.

Laboratory and Program Support

This subprogram continues to provide program direction for all hazard projects. In addition, this subprogram includes resources for voluntary standards coordination, international activities coordination, legal support, professional development, and laboratory support. In 2000, \$31,000 is requested to provide staff travel in support of **standards** development and to purchase voluntary standards reference materials.

The ongoing **Laboratory Support** project provides material and staff resources to support a wide range of activities at the Commission's Engineering and Chemistry Laboratories. The laboratory supports both hazard projects and compliance activities. In 2000, \$100,000 is requested to replace aging laboratory equipment or to purchase more efficient modern equipment.

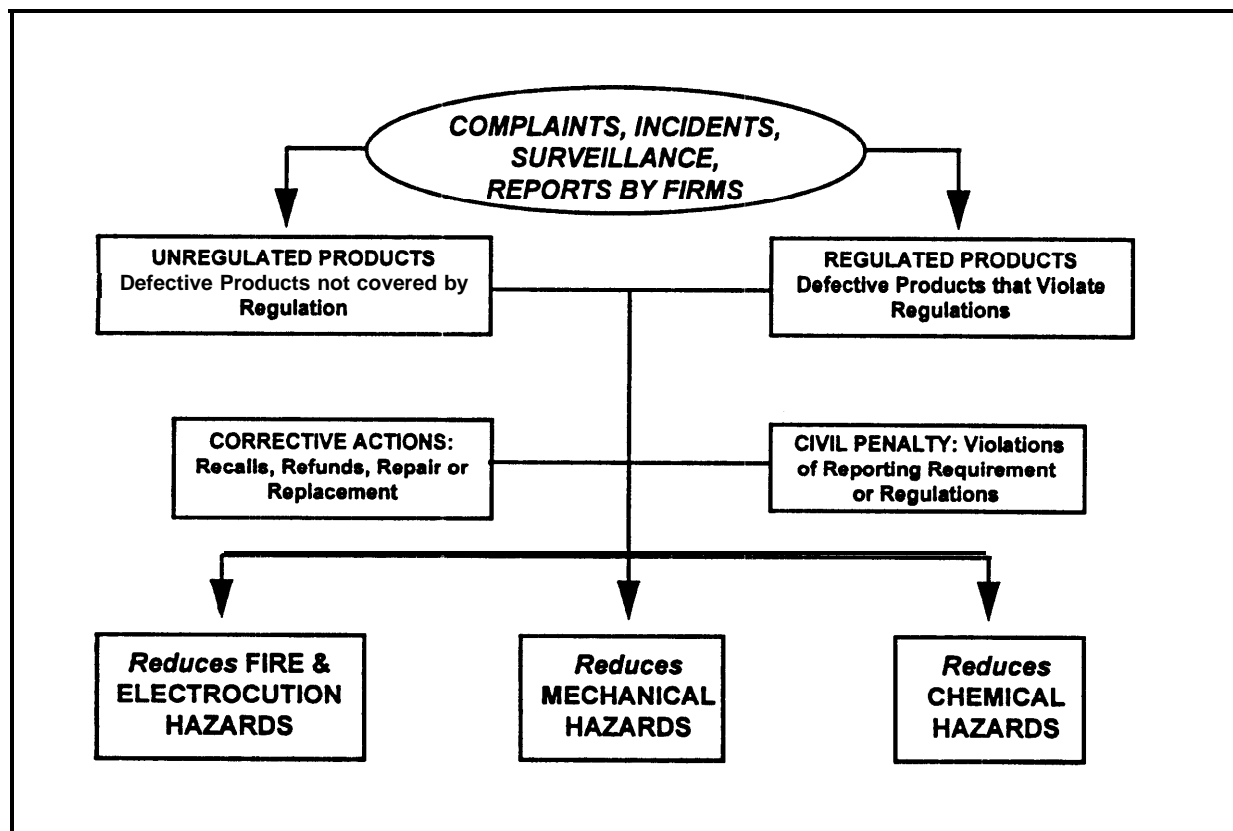
The Contract Support project provides resources for unplanned, critical new activities which arise during each year from the Compliance program, the Emerging Hazards Project under the **HIA** program, or from outside sources. In addition, Hazard Assessment and Reduction projects often involve research and complex testing and, while these projects are carefully planned, unanticipated research testing needs develop during the year. This project provides modest contract funds for outside expertise, such as peer review and/or specialized testing, to meet these unanticipated needs and to support unplanned activities.

V. COMPLIANCE

	1998 Appropriation		1999 Request		2000 Recommendation	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Total Program	192	\$16,509	192	\$17,161	192	\$18,921

Goals and Strategies

The Commission's Compliance program pursues reductions in fire, electrocution, mechanical, and chemical hazards in three ways: first, by obtaining compliance with product safety regulations issued by the Commission; second, by identifying and remedying unregulated products that present substantial safety hazards; and, third, by identifying and seeking conformance with voluntary standards relied upon by the Commission to reduce product hazards.



RELATIONSHIP OF COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

The Commission maintains an active program to identify violative or defective products, to analyze the risks associated with consumer products, and, where appropriate, to obtain corrective actions. In carrying out its compliance activities, the staff applies principles of risk-based decision making to assure that its actions are appropriate for the level of hazard

presented by the product. Corrective action is achieved by working cooperatively with industry and, as a last resort, through litigation. Cooperative efforts also extend to working with industry to convey regulation requirements through joint **CPSC/trade** seminars, workshops at trade shows, and other means.

Unregulated Products Activities

The agency identifies and remedies products not covered by mandatory standards that present substantial safety hazards. Once the staff preliminarily determines that a product presents a substantial safety hazard, the staff seeks corrective action. The Commission generally obtains voluntary cooperation from firms to remove potentially hazardous consumer products from the marketplace. **Where** voluntary action is not forthcoming, the Commission can use its litigation authority.

Many major recalls involve products for which there are significant injuries or deaths. In other cases, recalls are initiated because of the great potential for injury even though no, or only a few, injuries have occurred. In 1997, there were 271 recalls initiated for unregulated products. Other significant collateral outcomes of investigations include the revision' updating or development of product safety standards.

Industry under-reporting of significant safety hazards **continues** to be a matter of concern to the Commission. To assure that industry is aware of the Commission's concern about under-reporting of hazardous products, civil penalty actions have been pursued in appropriate cases. In 1997, the Commission negotiated civil penalties of \$695,000 for failure to report to the Commission information on potentially hazardous products. In addition, the Commission's Special Investigations Unit focuses on developing new sources to identify product hazards that, because of their complexity, had previously remained hidden from view. Often these hazards are the result of the combination of old and new technologies and involve a sequence of events for a hazard or hazards to develop.

The agency's Strategic Plan establishes a customer service goal of attaining an 80% success with the timeliness and usefulness of the "Fast Track Product Recall" program. Under this program, if a firm reports under section 15 of the CPSA and initiates a corrective action plan within 20 working days of the report, the staff will not make a "preliminary determination" that the product presents a "substantial product hazard". This program encourages firms to report early on hazardous products and has resulted in recalls being initiated in a more timely manner, saving both industry and agency time and money. In 1997, 107 corrective actions, involving 8.6 million products, were initiated under the fast track program.

Regulated Products Activities

The Commission continues to monitor industry compliance with CPSC rules and regulations and obtains corrective action when CPSC identifies products that violate mandatory safety standards. The activities include information and education directed to industry, import surveillance, retail surveillance, firm inspections, sample collections and analysis, product testing, and litigation when appropriate.

Products violating mandatory safety rules are identified and cooperative corrective action plans instituted. These actions include stop sale, correction and recall from the retail or consumer level. Product recalls are initiated involving those products that exhibit violations serious enough to warrant recall. In 1997, there were 96 product recalls of regulated products. Civil penalties are assessed against firms that have knowingly violated the law, and seizures, injunctions, and criminal prosecutions are pursued as appropriate to stop the sale of violative products. In 1997, \$444,000 in civil penalties were collected for sale of products violating specific regulations.

Voluntary Standards Conformance Activities

In recent years, the Commission has placed additional emphasis on working more cooperatively with industry and standards-setting organizations to develop voluntary standards and reduce reliance on government-imposed mandatory standards. The Commission has invested considerable resources in the development of voluntary standards and relies heavily on industry's conformance to those standards. Only by continually monitoring conformance with these standards can the Commission ensure that the products that are covered by those standards are, in fact, in **conformance** with them.

When the Commission has monitored products covered by voluntary standards in the past, it has found non-conforming products. By bringing such products into conformance or eliminating them from the marketplace, the Commission reduces the potential for serious injury and deaths and promotes stronger industry conformance. Products that the Commission has monitored include hair dryers, pool and spa covers, Christmas lights, and, more recently, bunk beds, and children's outer garments with strings. Commission monitoring also helps industry by making sure that some competitors do not evade a standard to cut costs and thereby underprice those manufacturers who are taking the steps necessary to meet an industry safety standard.

Workload Measures	1998 Estimate	1999 Estimate	2000 Estimate
Manufacturer reports received	280	280	280
Investigations conducted	250	250	250
In-depth injury investigations	1,300	1,300	1,300
Inspections conducted	1,150	1,150	1,150
Recalls/Corrective actions initiated	350	350	350
Recall Effectiveness checks	1,800	1,800	1,800
Negotiated civil penalties	16	16	16
Litigation cases initiated	3	3	3
Voluntary standards monitored	5	5	5
Samples collected	2,200	2,200	2,200

1999 Base Program

The Compliance program for 1999 consists of 192 **FTEs** and \$17.2 million. In 1997, as a result of Commission efforts, over 67 million noncomplying or defective products that presented fire, electrocution, mechanical, or chemical hazards, were subject to recalls or corrective action plans. Also in 1997, the Commission negotiated civil penalties totalling **\$1,139,000** from firms that failed to report potentially hazardous products (\$695,000) or sold products which violate specific regulations (\$444,000).

2000 Changes

In 2000, the Compliance program will continue to emphasize the removal of hazardous products from the marketplace and is supported with 192 **FTEs** and \$18.9 million. The increase in dollars (**\$1,760,000**) reflects the program's share of 2000 increases necessary to maintain current services as well as the program's share of agency information technology investment (**\$1,363,000**), and program initiatives (\$397,000).

The program initiatives in 2000 include:

1. Investigation Support - \$347,000. These funds will purchase contract support and staff operating expenses in support of **all** product hazard investigations and possible litigation. The contract services (\$300,000) would meet unique product testing requirements or obtain expert advice and testimony necessary to properly develop hazard investigations leading to corrective actions or possible litigation. An additional \$47,000 is requested to provide increased staff investigation travel (\$20,000) and other operating expenses (\$27,000) for such items as laboratory testing supplies and the purchase of product samples. The full request of \$347,000 is based on increased activity in the Compliance program.
- 2. Monitoring of All-Terrain-Vehicles (**ATVs**) - \$50,000. These funds, under the Mechanical Hazards subprogram, will pay for **ATV** sales monitoring by state and local **officials**. This program replaces the previous court decree governing the sale of **ATVs** to children.

In 2000, the Compliance program will continue to contribute substantially to the Commission's Results Act goals to reduce product-related injuries and death by initiating recalls and corrective actions of hazardous consumer products and monitoring of voluntary standards. In addition, the compliance program contributes to the **Commission's** industry services goal (80 percent success with timeliness and usefulness) through its Fast Track Product Recall program.

Program Detail	1998 Appropriation		1999 Request		2000 Recommendation	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Fire/Electrocution Hazards	50	\$4,486	50	\$4,663	50	\$5,141
Mechanical Hazards	111	9,191	111	9,554	111	10,535
Chemical Hazards	17	1,543	17	1,604	17	1,768
Program Support	14	1,289	14	1,340	14	1,477
Total Program	192	\$16,509	192	\$17,161	192	\$18,921

Fire and Electrocution Hazards

The Fire and Electrocution subprogram continues at the same level of effort as in 1999. The Commission continues to seek compliance with existing regulations and voluntary standards and address hazards from unregulated products. The subprogram's dollar resources increase to reflect its share of the agency request to maintain current services and information technology investments, as well as the subprogram's share of the Compliance program initiatives for 2000. This includes \$212,000 for contract and staff operating expenses to support investigations.

The agency's Strategic Plan establishes ten-year hazard reduction goals for fire and electrocution hazards. The goal for fire hazards is to reduce the death rate by 10% from 1995 to 2005. The goal for electrocutions is to reduce the **death** rate by 20% from 1994 to 2004. In 2000, the Commission projects taking these actions in reducing fire and electrocution hazards:

1. Pursue recalls or other corrective actions for products that present a substantial risk of **fire**-related death and for products that present a substantial risk of electrocution.
2. **Identify** and correct products that fail to meet mandatory safety standards that address risks associated with fire.
- 3.. Monitor voluntary standards designed to reduce fire-related deaths and electrocution deaths to determine the number of firms in compliance.
- 4.. Conduct port-of-entry surveillance for products covered by mandatory safety standards that address risks of fire.

Recently, the Commission has done the following to reduce fire hazards:

- CPSC joined with manufacturers, importers and retailers of halogen torchiere floor lamps to recall over 40 million units as a result of a fire hazard when the bulb ignites flammable material. Eleven deaths have been reported as being associated with these lamps. Free wire guards are being provided to owners of these lamps through retail stores or by calling a toll free number.

- The Commission settled litigation that resulted in a corrective action plan to remove approximately 230,000 defective toasters from consumer use.
- The Commission actively monitored imported electrical extension cords to detect those with undersized wire that created a risk of fire and removed them from the marketplace:

The Commission also will continue several efforts designed to reduce fire and electrical hazards such as monitoring compliance of disposable cigarette lighters to the agency's 1994 **child-resistance** requirement. Efforts will concentrate on identifying imported lighters that fail to comply and domestic firms that attempt to defeat the child-resistant features.

The Commission will monitor compliance with existing fireworks regulations, particularly the requirement that large multi-tube mine and shell **devices** not tip over during use. Import surveillance in conjunction with U.S. Customs continues to be the most effective approach in this enforcement activity.

The Commission will continue to pursue violations of the Flammable Fabrics Act (FFA) because of observed non-compliance of garments such as chenille sweaters, fleece garments, and imported light weight fabric rayon skirts and scarves. Enforcement actions will also continue to include children's sleepwear and other FFA flammability standards.

Electrical and construction inadequacies in extension cords, surge suppressor and **multi-electrical** outlets will continue to be addressed through cooperative efforts with the U.S. Customs Service at selected ports of entry. Small electrical appliances will receive emphasis at both the domestic manufacturing level and importer level. CPSC efforts will target lower quality products.

The Commission's Special Investigation Unit will also actively pursue contacts with arson and fire investigators, insurers, and other potential sources of incident information to identify specific consumer products implicated in fires that may be candidates for investigations and remedies.

Mechanical Hazards

The Mechanical Hazards subprogram, which emphasizes avoiding deaths and injuries to children, continues at the same pace as in 1999. The Commission will seek compliance with existing regulations and voluntary standards, as well **as** addressing hazards from unregulated products. The Subprogram's dollar resources increase to reflect its share of the agency request to maintain current services and information technology investments, as well **as** its share of the Compliance Program initiatives for 2000. This includes \$30,000 for staff operating expenses to support investigations and a \$50,000 increase in state and local funding of **a new All-Terrain-Vehicle (ATV)** monitoring program.

The agency's Strategic Plan establishes one goal in the mechanical hazard area: to reduce head injuries to children by 10% from 1996 to 2006. In addition, the Commission will continue pursuing reductions in a wide range of mechanical hazards, particularly those affecting children. In 2000, the Commission expects to take these actions in reducing mechanical hazards:

1. Pursue recalls or other corrective actions for products that present **a** substantial mechanical hazard risk to children or others.

2. Identify and correct products that fail to meet mandatory child safety or other standards.
3. Monitor existing voluntary standard(s) designed to reduce mechanical hazards to children or others to determine the number of firms in compliance.
4. Conduct port-of-entry surveillance of product(s) for which child or other safety standards are in effect.

Recently, the Commission has done the following to reduce mechanical hazards:

- Since 1994, 41 manufacturers have joined with the Commission to recall 531,000 wooden and metal bunk beds with child head entrapment hazards.
- Five manufacturers joined with the Commission to recall more than 1.5 million portable play pens to correct an entrapment hazard from top rail collapse. The top rail collapse results in a "V" formed by the rail, trapping the child. Since 1993, twelve children have died due to entrapment in the top rail of portable play pens.
- Eight go-kart manufacturers recalled for repair over 427,000 go-karts with exposed rear axles. One child death and two serious injuries resulted from long hair or clothing becoming entangled in the rotating rear axle.
- Together with the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, the Commission recalled approximately 800,000 combination car seats/infant carriers with defective handle locks.
- The agency negotiated almost 30 corrective action plans to recall and correct various problems with bicycles that could lead to loss of control and injury to riders.

The Commission will continue efforts designed to reduce mechanical hazards. Efforts under the Federal Hazardous Substances Act (FHSA) will include surveillance of selected imported products and targeted domestic product investigations. This will include an emphasis on toys and other articles for children with small part violations (choking hazards) and required cautionary labelling.

The **ATV** monitoring effort, previously designed to monitor distributor and dealer compliance with the requirements specified in the final 1988 consent decrees between the **ATV** distributors and CPSC, will continue in a different format in 2000. The consent decree expired in 1998 and the Commission, in partnership with the **ATV** industry, is developing a new program to address **ATV** hazards. For 2000, a \$50,000 increase is requested to fund state and local assistance in monitoring distributor and retail activities involving sales of **ATVs**.

2000 will be the first full year that the new federal bicycle helmet standard is in force. The importers and domestic manufacturers will be advised, of the new requirement prior to its effective date. In 1999 and continuing into 2000, bicycle helmet performance and labeling requirements will be evaluated with enforcement actions initiated as appropriate.

Chemical Hazards

The Chemical subprogram continues at the same level of activity as in 1999. The Commission will seek compliance with existing regulations and voluntary standards and address hazards from unregulated products. The subprogram's dollar resources increase to reflect its share of

the agency request to maintain current services and information technology investments, as well as the subprograms share of the Compliance program initiatives for 2000. This includes \$105,000 for contract and staff operating expenses to support investigations.

The agency's Strategic Plan establishes two ten-year reduction goals for certain chemical hazards. First, the Commission is seeking a 20% reduction in the death rate from carbon monoxide poisoning from 1994 to 2004. Second, the Commission is seeking to prevent an increase in deaths from poisonings to children. In addition, the Commission will continue to seek reductions from other chemical hazards. In 2000, the Commission expects to take these actions in reducing chemical hazards:

1. Pursue recalls or other corrective actions for products that present a substantial risk of chemical injury or death, including products that present a substantial risk of death from CO poisoning.
2. Identify and correct products that fail to meet mandatory chemical safety standards.
- 3.. Monitor existing voluntary standard(s) designed to reduce chemical-related deaths to determine the number of firms in compliance.
4. Conduct port-of-entry surveillance of product(s) for which chemical safety standards are in effect.

Recently, the Commission has done the following to reduce chemical hazards:

- The Commission negotiated an industry-wide corrective action plan with approximately 30 manufacturers of appliances and venting materials to replace high temperature plastic vent pipes for gas-fired appliances in approximately 250,000 homes. These vent pipes may crack or separate, causing potential risk of carbon monoxide poisoning to families.
- The CPSC has played a prominent role in protecting children from the risk of lead and other chemical poisonings. For example, Commission action has resulted in manufacturers eliminating the use of lead as a stabilizer in vinyl miniblinds, stopping the production of children's jewelry containing lead, developing and distributing guidance about lead on public playground equipment, recalling crayons that contained hazardous levels of lead, recalling toys with lead paint and issuing guidance to manufacturers and retailers urging them to eliminate the use of hazardous chemicals in children's products

The Commission will continue several efforts designed to reduce chemical hazards. In particular, the Commission will continue surveillance of child-resistant packaging requirements under the Poison Prevention Packaging Act. This includes packaging of prescription drugs by pharmacies, over-the-counter drugs and all household chemicals requiring child-resistant closures. CPSC will continue to encourage state boards of pharmacy to handle compliance with the agency's requirements for packaging prescription drugs, along with their own enforcement responsibilities.

Efforts under the FHSA will continue the enforcement of labeling requirements for art materials and hazardous household substances. Special dockside surveillance will continue at selected ports to look for children's products containing lead and other chemicals that present hazards in conjunction with the **U.S.** Customs Service.

Program Support

This activity continues to provide overall direction and coordination of the Compliance program, state and local program funds, sample management, and laboratory support. The State and Local partnership program multiplies the coverage of CPSC safety messages and extends the reach of the Commission to locations where the Commission has no physical presence. This activity permits the Commission's regional staff greater flexibility in completing various investigative tasks, such as **in-depth** incident investigations, evidence sample collections, inspections, and monitoring effectiveness of recalls. The Commission's Strategic Plan sets a goal to maintain the high level of satisfaction of the states with the State Partnership program at 90% or better through the year 2001. Activities supporting this goal include developing automatic links between CPSC and its 135 state and local partners and implementing programs such as **CPSC's** annual Recall Round-Up effort with its state partners.

VI. CONSUMER INFORMATION

	1998 Appropriation		1999 Request		2000 Recommendation	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Total Program	54	\$5,382	54	\$5,484	54	\$6,223

Goals and Strategies

The two goals of the Consumer Information (CI) program are to:

- Alert the public to recalled hazardous products and other safety information designed to reduce product injuries, and
- Collect hazardous product complaints from the public.

Consumer information is a critical activity in the Commission's hazard reduction strategies. While always providing an important adjunct to hazard reduction and compliance work, sometimes it represents the only viable means available to reduce consumer product hazards.

1999 Base Program

The CI program is divided among three functional efforts.

The Continuing Publications and Outreach function provides consumers with a broad range of consumer information materials. Included in this effort are the annual information programs, such as National Poison Prevention Week and other campaigns on electrical safety, fireworks safety and toy safety, conducted to maintain consumers' awareness of recurring safety problems.

The Clearinghouse function provides injury data to CPSC staff and the public, as required by Section 5 of the Consumer Product Safety Act. Section 6 of the Act requires the Commission to provide to manufacturers consumer complaints, reported incidents and accident investigations to alert them to reports of significant hazards associated with their products.

The Public Information Services function responds to the public's request for information, other than publications provided under the Continuing Publications and Outreach program, and provides proactive efforts to reach consumers with important hazard reduction information. Included under this effort are the award-winning, toll-free telephone Hotline and Internet **services** that receive consumer complaints and provide **information** on product hazards and recalls.

In the Commission's Strategic Plan, several specific goals involve the Consumer Information program:

1. Maintain consumer satisfaction with the agency's consumer Hotline;
2. Maintain the capacity of the Hotline to respond to calls;
3. Increase **website** contacts; and,
4. Maintain consumer satisfaction with the agency's clearinghouse.

In addition, activities of the Consumer Information program play an important role and support all the Commission's Strategic Plan goals aimed at hazard-specific reduction efforts.

2000 Changes

The 2000 program continues to provide the current level of consumer information in support of the agency's hazard reduction and compliance programs. **FTEs** remain the same and dollars increase by \$739,000. The increase reflects the program's share of agency cost increases to maintain current services as well as invest in information technology (**\$359,000**), and new program initiatives designed to improve and target the delivery of safety information to the most at-risk consumers (\$380,000). These initiatives include a smoke detector information effort, improvements to the agency's consumer Hotline, Information Center, and Internet site, funding for an additional highly effective video news release and an outreach campaign for the nation's pediatricians.

Program Detail	1998 Appropriation		1999 Request		2000 Recommendation	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Continuing Publications and Outreach	16	\$1,501	16	\$1,550	16	\$1,724
Clearinghouse	8	706	8	708	8	748
Public Info. Services	26	2,761	26	2,810	26	3,288
Program Support	4	414	4	416	4	463
Total Program	54	\$5,382	54	\$5,484	54	\$6,223

Continuing Publications and Outreach

This subprogram includes resources to distribute publications, initiate media contacts, work with State and local organizations, promote child safety, and continue efforts to reach older consumers, lower income consumers, non-English speaking consumers, and other vulnerable populations. Staff will develop and produce print and audiovisual materials about product safety issues tailored to the targeted groups. The information will be distributed through existing networks that **serve** vulnerable populations, like Head Start, Indian Health Service, and others.

The Distribution Services project continues to help CPSC fulfill approximately two million publication requests per year. In addition, CPSC conducts special mailings to advise the public about unique and emerging hazards and to elicit reports and information about possible emerging product safety hazards. The Commission's publications are handled by a cost-effective automated warehouse, where orders can be placed electronically.

CPSC continues special mailings as part of an overall effort to encourage outside groups to reprint and/or distribute CPSC safety information to the public through their national networks. CPSC worked with the National 4-H Council, the National Coalition for Consumer Education and others to distribute hundreds of thousands of **CPSC's** safety publications to the public

The Ongoing/Seasonal effort continues to inform the public of many ongoing and seasonal product safety topics. Topics include electrical safety, **inline** skating, indoor air quality, poison prevention, safety for older consumers, lawn mowers, home heating equipment, Halloween safety, fireworks, cigarette lighters, and carbon monoxide detectors, among others. The tasks entail reviewing and updating materials, and encouraging national, regional and local organizations to use CPSC information programs. Additionally, CPSC works with national and regional organizations, such as the Poison Prevention Week Council and the National **4-H** Council, to coordinate annual information programs on safety topics.

In 2000, \$50,000 is requested to fund an effort to increase the number of working smoke detectors in high-risk communities. Working with local fire services and other groups in up to six communities with high rates of residential fires and deaths, CPSC will encourage the installation of smoke detectors, particularly those detectors using long-life batteries. The effort will help explore new techniques and demonstrate the usefulness of various techniques to improve consumer use of this most effective hazard reduction tool.

Each year, CPSC provides Child Safety information to the public through trade shows, safety seminars, toy fairs, and news conferences. This project also updates agency publications and develops new information materials on emerging children's hazards. Additionally, information will be developed for new, inexperienced parents with an emphasis on networking with organizations serving low-income communities. Staff will develop new contacts and support existing contacts in the child safety field, resulting in improved emerging hazard identification, better accident reporting, expanded **outlets** for CPSC safety information, and greater national awareness of CPSC safety messages.

In 2000, \$35,000 is requested to distribute, on a quarterly basis, child safety information to all pediatricians in the U.S. CPSC will collaborate with the American Academy of Pediatrics to provide pediatricians with this information for their patients. This effort may be particularly useful in getting older nursery equipment, such as hazardous cribs, removed from homes.

Clearinnhouse

CPSC's National Injury Information Clearinghouse is required by section **5(a)** of the Consumer Product Safety Act (CPSA) to maintain and disseminate injury information to CPSC staff and the general public.

Clearinghouse responsibilities include maintaining CPSC injury data, including accident reports, death certificates, consumer complaints and newspaper clippings. The Clearinghouse also implements section 6(b) of the CPSA by annually mailing approximately 7,000 reports of product-related deaths, injuries, or other problems to complainants to confirm the accuracy of unsolicited information. The Clearinghouse also implements section 6(c) by forwarding about 2,000 accident investigation reports and 4,000 incident reports to manufacturers to alert them to reports of possibly significant hazards associated with products. In addition, the Clearinghouse responds each year to about 5,900 Freedom of Information requests for injury data and handles about 1,000 requests each year from CPSC's HAR and Compliance staff, who use the data in completing program work.

CPSC continues to improve Clearinghouse services. Hotline complaints are now electronically transmitted to the Clearinghouse and mailed within 48 hours to consumers for verification. Before, it took as long as 48 days to mail these complaints. In addition, manufacturers receive copies of investigations of incidents involving their products in 60 days or less, reducing the times from as much as 18 months in the past. Because of this more timely notification, the number of responses from manufacturers about incidents has more than tripled.

Public Information Services

The Public Information **Services** effort includes resources to respond to the public's request for information, other than publications described in **the** Continuing Publications and Outreach effort.

Media Relations continues to work with the media to place news and feature stories on injury reduction activities and product safety topics. This project also encompasses the development, coordination, and distribution of news releases. The project manages 15 safety news conferences, 2,800 media inquiries, and almost 200 news releases or public safety announcements annually.

Under Special Projects, CPSC staff plans events, meetings and public hearings designed to publicize product safety news. Such events may include product-related conferences or participation in outside organizations' news conferences, workshops, or programs. This project also includes staffing Commission exhibits at meetings of consumer groups and voluntary organizations, and producing and updating publications explaining what CPSC does, such as the publication listing and "Who We Are and What We Do For You!".

The Hotline continues to provide CPSC with quick, **two-way** communication between the agency and the public. It is one of CPSC's most visible efforts to provide the best possible customer service. Our efforts have received national recognition for excellence. The Hotline will handle approximately 300,000 calls in 2000 from consumers and industry. About 4,200 of these calls will be firsthand reports of product-related deaths, injuries, or other safety problems. The toll-free service not only receives consumer complaints and reports about potentially hazardous products., but offers information, primarily in English and Spanish (and if requested, **in** any of 17 other languages) on recalls and product safety topics.

In 2000, an increase of \$258,000 is requested for several Hotline improvements to: extend operating hours to 7:00 PM eastern time Monday through Thursday to accommodate more callers at later, more convenient hours, and to operate later in the afternoon on the West coast; improve the capability of meeting publication orders received through the Hotline; replace aging telecommunications equipment; and meet expected operator contract cost increases. Also in 2000, \$25,000 is requested to provide contract support to the agency's information center and Internet **website** because the number of queries received has more than doubled. These funds will permit the service to maintain current service response times to consumer inquires.

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) project continues to respond to about 10,000 annual FOIA requests from the public. The processing of requested information requires strict control, review, and notification procedures and, in many cases, legal advice of the General Counsel. This project will ensure conformance to recent amendments to **FOIA** requiring availability of information on the Internet.

Under the Correspondence/Response project, staff continues to respond to about 4,000 requests for information from consumers, industry, and others. The letters often are about complex legal or technical issues and require research and formal responses

The Video Communications project is an ongoing **effort** in which CPSC contracts for the production of television video news releases -- news features with footage and sound bites -- on various CPSC product safety topics and actions. These items are then satellite broadcasted to all television stations. Currently, this effort produces 12 to 14 television news features each year and additional footage on other product hazards. CPSC, experience with video news releases shows that as many as 25 percent of all television stations tape and use all or parts of the packages on their news programs, reaching tens of millions of TV viewers

- Television is an important medium for reaching vulnerable populations. In 2000, \$12,000 is requested to fund an additional video news release.

The Recalls/Alerts project continues to provide for the production of approximately 12 safety alerts each year on product recalls and emerging product hazards. Safety alerts are often reprinted in weekly newspapers and newsletters and are an inexpensive and effective means to disseminate information about hazardous products.,

Program Support

This effort provides staff resources to work directly with other units of the Commission to integrate public information into the overall work of the agency. This effort does not change in 2000.

VII. AGENCY MANAGEMENT

	1998 Appropriation		1999 Request		2000 Recommendation	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Total Program	88	\$8,404	88	\$8,685	88	\$9,747

Goals and Strategies

The Agency Management (AM) program provides policy, executive direction, legal guidance and administrative services necessary to function as a Federal regulatory agency. Most of the functions provided are required by law or regulation.

1999 Base Program

The 1999 resources include 88 **FTEs** and \$8.7 million. The agency has successfully worked to reduce the size of this program. As a percentage of total Commission resources, dollars have declined from 23 percent in 1989 to 18 percent in 1999 and **FTEs** have declined from 24 percent to 18 percent. As in all CPSC programs, but particularly in Agency Management, managers are working supervisors, sharing workload with staff.

2000 Changes

There are no program changes. The dollar increase (**\$1,062,000**) reflects the program's share of the agency's 2000 increases necessary to maintain current services as well as invest in information technology.

Program Detail	1998 Appropriation		1999 Request		2000 Recommendation	
	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount	FTEs	Amount
Commissioners and Staff	13	\$1,511	13	\$1,546	13	\$1,780
Commission Advice/ Legal Guidance	13	1,551	13	1,598	12	1,650
Executive Direction	8	884	8	929	8	1,056
General Administrative Service	54	4,458	54	4,612	55	5,261
Total Program	88	\$8,404	88	\$8,685	88	\$9,747

Commissioners and Staff

This project includes support for three Commissioners and their staffs. The Commissioners provide policy direction and guidance to the staff and make final decisions on Commission regulatory and enforcement actions.

Commission Advice/Legal Guidance

Included in this activity are the Office of Congressional Relations, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Enterprise, the Office of the Inspector General, and a portion of the Office of the Secretary and Office of the General Counsel. These offices are directly responsible to the Commissioners, providing advice and assistance on matters of policy and management.

The Office of the General Counsel (OGC) is responsible for enforcement and defense litigation, document preparation and review, legal advice, and ethics coordination. Where possible, OGC time is budgeted in other programs for projects which OGC directly supports. The time included in this program (three **FTEs**) covers legal review for personnel matters, contracts, ethics coordination, and other general law matters.

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) conducts audits, investigations, and inspections of Commission programs and activities to prevent and detect waste, fraud, and abuse and ensure compliance with policies and regulations.

A portion of the Office of the Secretary (OS) is supported in this program. **Where** possible, OS time is budgeted in other programs for projects it directly supports. Efforts in this program ensure that Commission decisions are properly recorded, maintained, and available to the public. The office issues Commission decisions, orders, rules, Federal Register notices, and other official documents for the Commission. The office is also responsible for preparing Commission agendas under the Government in the Sunshine Act and for supervising and administering the dockets of adjudicative proceedings

The Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Enterprise assures that the Commission complies with all laws, regulations, rules and internal policies relating to equal employment opportunity. It also assures compliance with the minority enterprise provision of the Small Business Act..

The Office of Congressional Relations responds to congressional inquiries on legislation affecting product safety.

Executive Direction

This activity includes the Office of the Executive Director and the Office of the Budget. These offices provide direct, day-to-day management of agency programs and operations. They are responsible for coordinating and directing agency activities in a manner consistent with the policy decisions and guidance provided by the Commission

General Administrative Services

The General Administrative Services subprogram provides direct administrative support required by Commission programs. These include human resource support and services in these areas: information technology, procurement, accounting, printing, and security. Each of these services is essential to ensuring efficient operation of the Commission's programs and conformance to various Federal government management regulations.

FTEs BY ORGANIZATION

<u>Organization</u>	1998 <u>On Board 1/</u>	1998 <u>Approp.</u>	1999* <u>Request</u>	2000 <u>Recommendation</u>	2000 vs 1999 <u>e</u>
Commissioners	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	--
Office of the Secretary	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	
Office of Congressional Relations.	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	-1.0
Office of the General Counsel.....	12.6	14.0	14.0	14.0	--
Office of EEOME	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	--
Office of the Inspector General.....	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	--
Office of the Executive Director.....	5.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	--
Office of Human Resource Mgmt . .	11.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	--
Office of Information Services.....	30.0	31.5	29.5	31.5	+2.0
Office of the Budget.....	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	--
Office of Planning and Evaluation.	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	--
Office of Information and Public Affairs	11.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	
Office of Compliance.....	45.5	46.0	46.0	46.0	--
Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction.....	149.9	154.5	154.5	166.5	+12.0
Assistant Executive Director.....	(8.0)	(7.0)	(7.0)	(19.0)	+12.0 **
Directorate for Econ. Analysis.....	(11.0)	(12.0)	(13.0)	(12.0)	-1.0
Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences.....	(59.1)	(64.0)	(64.0)	(64.0)	--
Directorate for Eng. Sciences.....	(38.8)	(37.5)	(37.5)	(37.5)	--
Directorate for Lab. Sciences.....	(33.0)	(34.0)	(33.0)	(34.0)	+1.0
Directorate for Administration	31.9	29.0	29.0	29.0	--
Directorate for Field Operations.. .	129.0	135.5	136.5	135.5	-1.0
Total	470.4	480.0	480.0	492.0	+12.0

1/ As of June 21, 1997. (includes pending hires, separations and six summer hires.)

. Does not reflect adjustments that will be made when 1999 operating plan is developed.

** Research initiative **FTEs** allocation by organization to be determined.

Summary of Field Resources
(dollars in thousands)

	1998 <u>Appropriation</u>	1999 <u>Request</u>	2000 <u>Recommendation</u>
<u>Staff (FTEs)</u>			
Hazard Identification and Analysis.....	25.5	25.5	25.5
Hazard Assessment and Reduction.....	2.0	2.0	2.0
Compliance	92.0	93.0	92.0
Consumer Information.....	16.0	16.0	16.0
Total	135.5	136.5	135.5
 <u>State and Local Contracts</u>			
Hazard Identification and Analysis:			
Investigations	\$10	\$10	\$10
Hazard Assessment and Reduction:			
Cigarette Lighter Rule Evaluation.....	40	--	
Compliance:			
Mechanical (ATV).....		--	50
Compliance Support.....	100	100	100
Subtotal Compliance.....	- - 1 0 0	100	150
Consumer Information:			
Video Communications.. ..	20	20	20
Smoke Detectors for Low Income.....			50
Subtotal Consumer Information	20	20	70
Total.....	\$170	\$130	\$230

VOLUNTARY AND MANDATORY STANDARDS SUMMARY

	<u>1998 Estimate</u>	<u>1999 Request</u>	<u>2000 Recommendation</u>
VOLUNTARY STANDARDS UNDER DEVELOPMENT:			
Fire/Electrocutions	17	16	21
Mechanical/Child.	27	23	29
Chemical	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	8
Total Voluntary Standards	50	45 "	58 *

"It is anticipated that these numbers will increase to reflect voluntary standards activities added during the operating plan.

MANDATORY STANDARDS UNDER DEVELOPMENT:

Fire/Electrocutions	5	4	2
Mechanical/Child.	4	3	0
Chemical.	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>
Total Mandatory Standards	12	12	4

VOLUNTARY STANDARDS 1998-2000

1998 Estimate	1999 Request	2000 Recommendation
Fire/Gas Codes & Stds.	Fire/Gas Codes & Stds.	Fire/Gas Codes & Stds.
1. Candles	1. Candles	1. Fireworks Devices
2. Fireworks Devices	2. Fireworks Devices	2. Gas Water Heaters
3. Gas Systems: Overpressure	3. Gas Systems: Over-pressure	3. National Fuel Gas Code
4. Gas Water Heaters	4. Gas Water Heaters	4. Sprinklers
5. LP Gas Codes	5. National Fuel Gas Code	5. Stoves, Pellet
6. National Fuel Gas Code	6. Ranges and Ovens	6. Valves
7. Ranges and Ovens	7. Sprinklers	7. Wall Coverings
8. Sprinklers, Residential	8. 20 lb. Gas Systems	
9. 20 lb. Gas Systems		
Electrical Codes & Stds.	Electrical Codes & Stds.	Electrical Codes & Stds.
10. Countertop Cooking Appliances	9. Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters	8. Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters
11. Clothes Dryers	10. Clothes Dryers	9. Circuit Breakers
12. Elec. Reinspection	11. Dishwashers	10. Clothes Dryers
13. Extension Cords	12. Elec. Reinspection	11. Dishwashers
14. Lamps and Lighting	13. Heaters, Portable Electric	12. Electrical Reinspection
15. Polymeric Materials	14. Polymeric Materials	13. Fans, Electrical
		14. Fixed Room Heaters
		15. Heaters, Portable Electric
		16. Polymeric Materials
		17. Ranges and Ovens
		18. Switches
		19. Toys, Ride On (Battery)
Electrocutions	Electrocutions	Electrocutions
16. Shock Protection Devices	15. Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters	20. Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters
17. National Elec. Code	16. National Elec. Code	21. National Elec. Code

Voluntary Standards 1998-2000 - Continued

1998 Estimate	1999 Request	2000 Recommendation
Mechanical Codes & Stds.	Mechanical Codes & Stds.	Mechanical Codes & Stds.
18. All-Terrain Vehicles	17. Exercise Equipment	22. Escalators
19. Escalators	18. Fans, Ceiling	23. Garage Door/Gate Operators
20. Garage Door/Gate Operators	19. Garage Door /Gate Operators	24. Go Karts (Fun Carts)
21. Go Karts (Fun Carts)	20. Saws, Chain	25. Nail Guns
22. Saws, Chain	21. Saws, Table	26. Plastic Applications
23. Saws, Table		27. Saws, Chain
24. Snowblowers		28. Saws, Table
25. Washing Machines		29. Snowblowers
		30. Swimming Pool Alarms
Children's Products (Head)	Children's Products (Head)	Children's Products (Head)
26. Bike/Recreation Helmets	22. Activity Centers, Stationary	31. Activity Centers, Stationary
27. Cribs	23. Bicycles	32. Bicycles
28. Furniture Tipover	24. Furniture Tipover	33. Furniture Tipover
29. High Chairs	25. Helmets, Bike	34. Helmets, Recreational
30. Infant Carriers	26. Helmets, Skiing	35. Helmets, Snowboarding
31. Playground Equipment, Children Younger Than 2	27. Helmets, Snowboarding	36. High Chairs
32. Playground Equip.-Home	28. High Chairs	37. Infant Carriers
33. Playground Equip.-Public	29. Infant Carriers	38. Playground Equipment, Children Younger Than 2
34. Playground Equip.-Soft	30. Playground Equipment, Children Younger Than 2	39. Playground Equip.-Home
35. Strollers	31. Playground Equip.-Home	40. Playground Equip.-Public
36. Swings, Baby	32. Playground Equip.-Public	41. Playground Equip.-Soft
37. Trampolines	33. Playground Equip.-Soft	42. Playground Surfacing
38. Window Guards	34. Playground Surfacing	43. Swings, Baby
	35. Swings, Baby	44. Trampolines
	36. Trampolines	45. Window Guards
	37. Window Guards	

Voluntary Standards 1998-2000 • Continued

1998 Estimate	1999 Request	2000 Recommendation
Children's Products (Other)	Children's Products (Other)	Children's Products (Other)
39. Infant Bedding	38. Infant Bedding	46. Bed Rails
40. Mini Hammocks	39. Mini Hammocks	47. Infant Bedding
41. Toy Safety		48. Mini-Hammocks
Sports and Recreation	Sports and Recreation	Sports and Recreation
42. Protective Padding		49. Bicycle Lighting
43. Soccer Goals		50. Exercise Equipment
44. Treadmills		
Carbon Monoxide	Carbon Monoxide	Carbon Monoxide
45. Camping Equipment	40. Camping Equipment	51. Camping Equipment
46. CO Detectors	41. CO Detectors	52. CO Detectors
47. Furnaces, Central	42. Furnaces, Central	53. Furnaces, Central
48. Unvented Gas Appliances	43. Unvented Gas Room Heaters	54. Gas Logs
49. Vented Gas Room Heaters	44. Vented Gas Room Heaters	55. Ranges and Ovens
		56. Unvented Gas Room Heaters
		57. Vented Gas Room Heaters
Poison Prevention	Poison Prevention	Poison Prevention
50. Child Resistant Packaging	45. Child Resistant Packaging	58. Child Resistant Packaging

MANDATORY STANDARDS (RULEMAKING), 1998-2000

1998 ESTIMATE ¹	1999 REQUEST ¹	2000 RECOMMENDATION
Fire/Electrocutions	Fire/Electrocutions	Fire/Electrocutions
1. Upholstered Furniture ²	1. Upholstered Furniture ²	1. Upholstered Furniture ²
2. General Wearing Apparel	2. General Wearing Apparel	2. Mattresses ²
3. Flammability Standards ³	3. Flammability Standards ³	
4. Multi-purpose Lighters	4. Multi-purpose Lighters	
5. Sleepwear		
Mechanical/Child	Mechanical/Child	Mechanical/Child
6. Bicycle Helmets	5. Cribs ²	
7. Cribs ²	6. Bunk Beds	
8. Bunk Beds	7. Baby Walkers ²	
9. Baby Walkers ²		
Chemical	Chemical	Chemical
10. Petroleum Distillates	8/9. CR Packaging Standards - 2 Substances (Substances to be determined)	3/4. CR Packaging Standards - 2 Substances (Substances to be determined)
11. Minoxidil	10. Petroleum Distillates	
12. Fluoride	11. Minoxidil	
	12. Fluoride	

¹ Rulemaking activity added after original 1998 operating plan and 1999 Request were developed.

² Rulemaking may be recommended.

³ Amendment of laundering procedures